

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 6 and 9 are herein amended. New claims 1-20 are added.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

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1. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus having image sensing means for sensing a subject image formed on an image sensing plane and outputting an image signal corresponding to the subject image, comprising:

zone selecting means for selecting ~~any~~ an arbitrary zone on the image sensing plane for which exposure setting is desired in a state that said image sensing means is sensing the subject image;

exposure detection means for detecting an exposure condition ~~on the basis~~ corresponding to that of an image signal in [[a]] said arbitrary zone selected ~~zone~~ by said zone selection means;

exposure control means for controlling exposure ~~based upon~~ to correspond to the detected exposure condition;

memory means for storing control parameters outputted by said exposure control means, the memory means configured to store the control parameters when an exposure control processing by said exposure control means is completed and an optimum exposure control state for the selected zone is obtained;

control means for controlling said exposure control means to ~~keep~~ maintain an exposure control state corresponding to the control parameters stored in said memory means in the state

that the control parameters corresponding to the optimum exposure control state is stored in said memory means, ~~even if the selected zone is changed by said zone selecting means.~~

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2. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if the control parameters are outside a prescribed range, said memory means selects an upper-limit or a lower-limit of the prescribed range of control parameters as the control parameters.

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3. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus having image sensing means for sensing a subject image formed on an image sensing plane and outputting an image signal corresponding to the subject image, comprising:

zone selecting means for selecting any an arbitrary zone on the image sensing plane for which exposure setting is desired in a state that said image sensing means is sensing the subject image;

exposure detection means for detecting an exposure condition ~~on the basis~~ corresponding to that of the an image signal in [[a]] said arbitrary zone selected zone by said zone selection means;

exposure control means for controlling exposure ~~based upon~~ to correspond to the detected exposure condition;

memory means for storing control parameters outputted by said exposure control means, the memory means configured to store the control parameters when an exposure control processing by said exposure control means is completed and an optimum exposure control state for the selected zone is obtained;

control means for controlling said exposure control means to ~~keep~~ maintain an exposure control state corresponding to the control parameters stored in said memory means in the state

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that the control parameters corresponding to the optimum exposure control state is stored in said memory means, ~~even if the zone is changed by said zone selecting means~~; and

selected-zone detection means for determining whether the image signal captured by said image sensing means contains said zone upon elapse of a prescribed period of time, and outputting a signal for resetting control parameters in said memory means if the captured image signal is not contained in said zone.

4. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein if the control parameters are outside a prescribed range, said memory means selects an upper-limit or a lower-limit of the prescribed range of control parameters as the control parameters.

5. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising selecting means for allowing a photographer to select whether maintenance of exposure by said memory means is to be reset or not.

6. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus having image sensing means for sensing a subject image formed on an image sensing plane and outputting an image signal corresponding to the subject image, comprising:

zone selecting means for selecting ~~any~~ an arbitrary zone on the image sensing plane for which exposure setting is desired in a state that said image sensing means is sensing the subject image;

exposure detection means for detecting an exposure condition ~~relating~~ corresponding to ~~the~~ that of an image signal in ~~[[a]]~~ said arbitrary zone selected ~~zone~~ on the basis of the image signal;

exposure control means for controlling an exposure ~~based upon~~ to correspond to the detected exposure condition;

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first memory means for storing control parameters outputted by said exposure control means, the memory means configured to store the control parameters when an exposure control processing by said exposure control means is completed and an optimum exposure control state for the selected zone is obtained;

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control means for controlling said exposure control means to ~~keep~~ maintain an exposure control state corresponding to the control parameters stored in said first memory means in the state that the control parameters corresponding to the optimum exposure control state is stored in said first memory means ~~even if the zone is changed by said zone selecting means~~;

second memory means for storing a video signal of said zone; and

detection means for determining whether a zoomed image signal captured by said image sensing means contains the video signal of said zone stored in said second memory means, and outputting a signal for resetting the control parameters in said first memory means if the captured image signal is not contained in said zone.

7. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein if the control parameters are outside a prescribed range, said first memory means selects an upper-limit or a lower-limit of the prescribed range of control parameters as the control parameters.

8. (Previously Amended) The apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising selecting means for allowing a photographer to select whether maintenance of exposure by said first memory means is to be reset or not.

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9. (Currently Amended) An image sensing apparatus having display means for displaying an image signal, comprising:

a pointing device for selecting ~~any~~ an arbitrary zone in a screen displayed by said display means for which exposure setting is desired in a state that said image sensing means is sensing the subject image;

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adjusting means for applying a prescribed adjustment to ~~the~~ an image signal of said arbitrary zone selected by said pointing device;

memory means for storing adjusting data outputted by said adjusting means; and

control means for storing the adjusting data in said memory means when adjustment by said adjusting means is completed and a prescribed state is obtained, and for controlling said adjusting means to ~~keep~~ maintain the prescribed state corresponding to the adjusting data stored in said memory means ~~even if the selected zone is changed by said pointing device~~.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said pointing device is a line-of-sight detecting device for detecting position of a photographer's line of sight directed toward the screen.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said pointing device is a mouse.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said pointing device is a track ball.

13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said adjusting means adjusts exposure of the image sensing device by adjusting f-stop, a shutter and gain.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein when adjustment by said adjusting means has attained a prescribed state, said control means has attained a prescribed state, said control means maintains the state of adjustment prevailing at this time.

15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising selecting means for allowing a photographer to select whether storage of the adjusting data by said control means is performed or not.

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said screen is a monitor screen of an electronic viewfinder.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein operation of the exposure control means is initiated in response to an exposure detection key.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein operation of the exposure control means is initiated in response to an exposure detection key.

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein operation of the exposure control means is initiated in response to an exposure detection key.

20. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein operation of the control means is initiated in response to an exposure detection key.